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of disgust and alienation on the other ; in bringing home to the door and to the bottom of every Roman Catholic, even down to the humblest rank of life, a conviction of the unjust degradation in which it is sought to hold him ; while it tends to exalt the uninformed Protestant into a false sense of superiority. Hence those acts of aggression and provoked retort, which frequently disturb the public peace. We trust, under the government of our beloved Prince Regent, this fruitful source of local irritation, and of mutual dissension, will be remedied by the substitution of a wise and liberal arrangement.

Resolved—That we are anxious at all times to express our gratitude to our liberal Protestant fellow-citizens, and we do declare that without their good will, it would be in vain for our happiness, that the Legislature should accomplish our legal enfranchisement. As there is nothing we so ardently desire as the perfect establishment of civil and social harmony, so is there nothing we more deprecate than the upholding of party distinctions, where all ought to have but one interest, and all have a common country to defend. It is therefore that we deeply lament the existence of associations secret in the detail of their views and objects, but avowedly exclusive of us, and we fear hostile to our just claims. To the members of those associations we would say, in the spirit of peace and charity—“ Like you, we contend for the freedom of choice : for the exclusive right of the individual to the dominion of his own mind. You adopt the religious opinions of the Reformed Churches ; we adhere to that system of belief and that practice of rites which was the religion of *your* as well as *our* ancestors ; and which continues to be professed by three fourths of the Christian world ; which is the established religion of the greatest nations, and is and has been that of the most profound philosophers and greatest statesmen. We seek not to compare the merit of this or that system of religious opinions, but we contend for the right of every man to embrace that which appears to him best. You must sympathize with us in this claim. It is your boast. Then wherefore your hostility to us ? that cannot be wrong in the Catholic which is not so in the Protestant ! Lay aside, countrymen, your unjust prejudices ; dissolve your ill-judged exclusive associations, and let us become, what we ought to be, *one people*, united in effort for the prosperity and defence of our common country and sovereign.”

Resolved—That the foregoing resolu-

tions be published in the provincial and Dublin newspapers, and a copy thereof transmitted to the State Secretary, of the Prince Regent, to be laid before his Royal Highness.

C. G. COSSLETT.

Mr. Cosslett having left the chair, and C. Russell, of Killough, esq. being called thereto—

Resolved—That the thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. Cosslett, for his dignified and proper conduct in the chair.

C. RUSSELL.

COUNTY TIPPERARY MEETING.
To His Royal Highness, GEORGE, PRINCE of WALES, Regent of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

The Dutiful and Loyal Address of the Freeholders of the County of Tipperary, legally convened and assembled at Thurles, on the 15th of April, 1811.

May it please your Royal Highness, we the freeholders of the county of Tipperary, legally convened and assembled at Thurles, most humbly approach your Royal Highness with the warmest assurances of affectionate attachment to your Royal Person, and unshaken adherence to those sacred principles which seated your family on the throne of these realms, fully convinced that those principles afford the best security to the honour and dignity of the sovereign, and the rights and interests of the people.

In offering to your Royal Highness our sincere condolence, upon the severe affliction with which it has pleased divine Providence to visit our most gracious Sovereign, it is with heartfelt consolation, that, in common with all ranks of our fellow-subjects, we behold the momentous functions of the executive power vested in a Prince so highly endowed, and so eminently qualified to exercise the regal duties—a Prince who has so greatly endeared himself to the hearts of all his Majesty’s people by his moderation and forbearance, on various trying occasions, and by the attachment he has so uniformly shown to their rights and liberties—Much more proudly and confidently should we have felt this consolatory statement had the desire and expectation of the United Kingdom been realized, by confiding to your Royal Highness the full powers of the exclusive authority, assured, as we feel, that those powers would be wisely and beneficially exercised to enable the whole body of your people to meet the extraordinary exigencies of so perilous a crisis—assured, as we are, that the national valour would

be stimulated by a wise and dignified, because an important distribution of reward and favor—that patriotism in its purest and most genuine meaning, would be identified with power, and that the only medium by which the people of these realms could view the supreme magistrate of the state, would be through the irradiations diffused around him from acts of benignity and munificence. Fair would we have been to forbear clouding the dawn of our intercourse with your Royal Highness by a glance even at the name of grievances, manifold, weighty, and pernicious, as those are to which we more particularly apply ourselves, but the duty we owe to our Sovereign and our country—the reverence we owe to the memory and example of our forefathers, and the justice that is claimed toward our posterity—the fame, the happiness and the safety of the empire—all, with irresistible force, forbid us to disguise our thoughts or smother our feelings.

We see with a mixed contemplation of shame and sorrow, the political unity of a great people hazarded. We see Ireland, the most essential bulwark of the British name and glory, paralyzed in her exertions—degraded in her character—her valor checked by unworthy suspicion—her emulation expressed by servile and unwarrantable distinctions—her people divided without meaning, and her strength and her integrity depreciated by imputations that at once she disclaims and detests—and laying before your Royal Highness the common sentiments of a loyal, generous, and ardent people of all religious persuasions, we do most humbly implore your Royal Highness' early and earnest attention to the situation of the Irish Catholics.

By the present system of laws, the Catholic of Ireland is mocked and tantalized, by having laid open to him every avenue (that to the church alone excepted) which leads to wealth, and power, and dignity; and thus he may drudge and labour in the dull and discouraging pursuits of Science that are divested of all those lures to activity, by which every other description of men are incited to great exertion; or he may fight and fall in the field, under a sense of duty abstracted from all the noblest and most inspiring incentives to glory. In either case he is so circumstanced, that the zeal, which in others animates study or invigorates labour, and the heroism that inspires to deeds of valour, are damped and chilled in him, by the heart-rending reflection, that however nobly or meritoriously he may struggle for the final advantage, he can never

attain it—that however he may be permitted to waste his life in pursuing the path to fame and power, the entrance, when he arrives at it, is shut for ever against him.

By this system of laws, and the system of government consequently acting upon them, the remaining restrictions operating against the Roman Catholics, exhibit the appearance of a blind infatuation conferring upon French and other foreign Roman Catholic officers, what it offensively refuses to native Irish; filling the hearts of Irish millions with indignation and resentment, and laying them open to the influence of passions, which cannot be contemplated without horror.

In beseeching your Royal Highness' favourable attention to our common supplication, we approach your Royal Highness with the greater degree of confidence, because we cannot but hope, that when the two great classes of Protestants and Catholics, for mutual preservation, shall make common cause, in pursuit of an object that we all think indispensable, the few but odious remaining restrictions upon the Catholic body, smitten by the united rays of the law, the constitution, the nation and the throne, must, like a noxious exhalation, melt and disappear.

We do therefore humbly entreat, that your Royal Highness may be graciously pleased to recommend to the Imperial Parliament, the immediate consideration of the state of the Irish Catholics, and the urgent necessity of restoring them to the full participation of all the advantages and blessings of our glorious Constitution—blessings and advantages to which we humbly submit that they are now highly and justly entitled, to a still more ample extent than what was assured to that Body under the solemn treaty of Limerick, signed by King William, to the security of which, they have in much more than a proportionate degree contributed by their treasure and their lives; to the enjoyment of which under your Royal Highness and every branch of your illustrious family thus have eminently entitled themselves by an unabated loyalty toward the House of Brunswick, and by their uniform, ardent, and steady attachment for six hundred and fifty years to their natural alliance with Great Britain. In support of which every battle that has been fought, and every victory that has been gained, from the earliest periods of our history, under the British banners, by sea or land, in every climate of the earth, has been highly attributable to Irish valour and Irish loyalty.

ty bleeding and dying for British glory and sealing with the best blood of Ireland the bond of British connexion.

With these views, may it please your Royal Highness, we trust that it will appear but a claim of common justice on behalf of this numerous, opulent, and loyal majority of the Irish people, that they should at once be freed from every species of restriction and disability, and be placed on a full and fair footing of perfect equality with the most favored of his majesty's most loyal subjects.

On thus approaching your Royal Highness with our sincere congratulations, we have attempted to discharge an honest duty, at once to your Royal Highness and the people of the empire, in humbly suggesting a measure, by the recommendation and accomplishment of which, your Royal Highness will ensure the gratitude, and combine the strength of this vast portion of the empire, and entail upon your name and character the love, admiration and blessings of the time in which you live, and the reverence of ages yet to come.

To the Right Hon. and Hon. the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The Humble Petition of the undersigned Gentlemen, Freeholders, and Inhabitants of the county of Tipperary, comprising persons professing various religious persuasions,

SHEWETH,

That we, your petitioners, being actuated by sentiments of attachment to the true principles of the constitution, and sincerely desirous to promote the internal concord and general prosperity of our country, by every measure of conciliation, good will, and justice towards all classes and descriptions of our fellow subjects, beg leave to represent to this honourable house, that we view with particular regret and disapprobation, the existing code of penal and disabling statutes, which aggrieve and degrade the Roman Catholics of these realms, adhering to the faith of their forefathers.

This obnoxious code, at all times unjust in its principle, and violating an ancient and solemn treaty, appears to us, at this critical period of national exigency, to be peculiarly ill-timed and unadvised.

Besides infringing the sacred rights of private conscience, and violating the first principles of legislation, it insults and depresses every individual of the Catholic community, stigmatises them as unwor-

thy of confidence, and proscribes them as aliens in their native land.

Thus disuniting the people, thus prolonging needless dissensions, and alienating the great majority of the Irish population from the State, this code is the certain source of national weakness, and imminent public danger. Without the zealous co-operation of the Catholic community, that right arm of Ireland, no reflecting man can confidently reckon upon an effectual resistance to the common foe, in the trying hour of peril; and it is but natural to presume, that such co-operation will be best ensured by augmenting their interest in the maintenance of the constitution, by extending to them its full benefits, without reserve or restriction; by acts of substantial justice, and even of marked kindness, towards this faithful and well-deserving people, from whom, perhaps, within a very short period, the most arduous services, and of inestimable value, will be necessarily and anxiously demanded.

We are of opinion, therefore, that no other measure can so effectually tend to the firm defence and preservation of these islands, to internal union and general security, as a full and complete restoration of all the rights and benefits of the constitution to the Catholic people.

Justice, no less than sound policy, demands the immediate adoption of this measure. Liberty of conscience, and the unfettered exercise of private judgment in the choice of religion, are the inalienable birth-right of every man, and cannot be invaded by human power, without disrespect to that merciful Deity, who tolerates all religions; and graciously accepts from all men the genuine worship of the heart, in whatsoever language, and under every form.

The experience of nations has also shewn, that intolerance can never be practiced with impunity; in its gloomy train are ever to be found national discord, disgrace, decay, and finally, desolation of the most disastrous nature. May the Almighty avert such dire calamities from this empire.

As members of various religious communities, Protestants as well as Catholics, we disclaim all coercive laws concerning religious subjects.

We solemnly protest against the prolongation of a code, founded in such coercion; and however different our respective modes of faith, yet we cordially concur in earnestly praying, as the first and choicest blessing to Ireland, that those

odious laws which inflict discord upon our country, and have long been reprobated by all humane and liberal men, may be altogether abandoned, and give place to such healing and conciliatory measures, as shall restore to us, the benefits of domestic union and tranquility, efface even the remembrance of religious intolerance, and suffer not a vestige of it to remain in these islands.

We therefore seriously do beseech this hon. house to repeal all and every the penal disabling and exclusive laws, which aggrieve and injure the Roman Catholics of these realms, and to reinstate them effectually in the full participation of all the rights and benefits of the laws and constitution of this empire, equally and in common with their fellow subjects, without any distinction of religious communion.

After the Protestants withdrew, the Catholics voted thanks to their Protestant brethren, for their exertions on their behalf.

PUBLIC OCCURRENCES.

Died, on the 1st of this month, at Balitore, Lydia the wife of James White, master of a boarding-school in that place. This amiable young woman, who had little more than completed her 24th year, had most exemplarily discharged her several duties of life, and in the important relation of presiding over the domestic arrangements of a large school, by her tender and motherly care over the boys, had eminently gained their affections, and gave the strongest indications of future usefulness, if her life had been prolonged. But a rapid decline terminated her earthly prospects, and snatched her from her husband, and friends. It is not intended by a pompous display of her many amiable qualities to describe her character. Such a display would ill suit to delineate her modest and retiring virtues. She will long survive in the memory of her friends. Hers was,

A heart within whose sacred cell,
The peaceful virtues lov'd to dwell.
Affection warm, and faith sincere,
And soft humanity were there.
In agony and death resign'd,
She felt the wound, she left behind."

She was endowed with a sweetness uncommon, and had a mildness in her manner, and in her countenance, that bespoke evenness and amiableness of mind. As she grew up, her mind was particularly turned to compassionate the poor, often visiting

in the cottages, and procuring little matters which she could obtain for them, suited to their necessities. She had an extensive interest amongst all ranks, but particularly the poor."

BLEACHERS PETITION.

The progress of the bill founded on this petition has been thus announced by Sir S. Romilly:—

Lincoln's-Inn, April 10, 1811.

SIR,

I have great pleasure in informing you that the bill to take away capital punishment for the offence of stealing from bleach greens, and to substitute the punishment of transportation for life, or a shorter time, at the discretion of the judge, in its place, has, together with some other bills for similar objects, passed the house of commons, and was yesterday carried up to the lords. What will be its fate there, I cannot tell; but as the bill was indebted for its favourable reception in the commons entirely to the petition which you transmitted to me, and as no notice can be properly taken in the house of lords of that petition, I think it right to mention to you that a petition to the lords to the same effect as that which was presented to the commons, would be likely to be attended with extremely good effects.—The bill is not to be debated for some time, probably not for a month, or perhaps longer—whether that interval will allow of preparing and transmitting a petition, you can best judge. I shall endeavour to make the best use I can of the important facts mentioned by you, in your letter of the 9th of last month.

I am, Sir,

With very great regard,

Your most obedient servant,

SAMUEL ROMILLY.

JOHN HANCOCK, Lisburn.

At a meeting of the proprietors of bleach-greens, held in Lisburn, pursuant to public advertisement the 16th of April, 1811, John McCance, esq. in the chair. The following resolutions were unanimously agreed to:

That this meeting has observed with much satisfaction, that through the zealous exertions of Sir Samuel Romilly, and his enlightened endeavours to reform the criminal code, a bill founded on our petition to the house of Commons, has been carried through that house, which takes away the capital punishment for the offence of stealing from bleach-greens, and substitutes transportation for life, or a shorter time, at the discretion of the judge.

That in furtherance of the plan a petition be presented to the house of Lords,